

REMARKS

The Office Action dated March 9, 2004 and the Advisory Action dated July 15, 2004 have been received and carefully noted. The above claim amendments and the following remarks are submitted as full and complete response thereto.

Claims 5, 9, 13-15, 17-18, and 20 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-3, 6-8, 10-12, 16, and 19 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Claims 5, 9, 13, and 14 are independent claims. No new matter has been added, and no new issues are raised which require further consideration or search. All of the pending claims have previously been allowed, or indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

Rejection of Claims 1-3, 6-8, 10-12, 16, and 19 under 35 U.S.C § 102(a):

Claims 1-3, 6-8, 10-12, 16, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Applicants Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) included between page 2, line 15, and page 5, line 18, of the present specification and in Figures 1-3 of the present application. The cancellation of claims 1-3, 6-8, 10-12, 16, and 19 renders this rejection moot.

Objection to Claims 4 and 15 as being Dependent Upon a Rejected Base Claim:

Claims 4 and 15 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The above amendment of claims 4 and 15, placing each of these claims in independent form, renders the objection to claims 4 and 15 moot.

Allowed Claims:

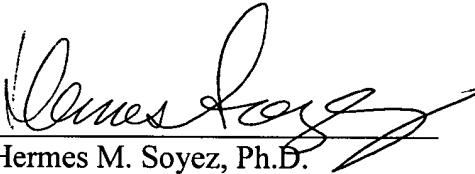
Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 5, 9, 13-14, 17-18, and 20. Applicants also thank the Examiner for acknowledging the claims 4 and 15 contained allowable subject matter. Since, upon entry of this Supplemental Response, all of the claims pending in the

present application will have been previously either allowed or acknowledged to contain allowable subject matter, Applicants respectfully request that this application be passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the Applicants' undersigned representative at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hermes M. Soyez', written over a horizontal line.

Hermes M. Soyez, Ph.D.
Registration No. 45,852

Customer No. 32294
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY LLP
14TH Floor
8000 Towers Crescent Drive
Tysons Corner, Virginia 22182-2700
Telephone: 703-720-7800
Fax: 703-720-7802

HMS:mm

Enclosure: Petition for Extension of Time